

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twelfth Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Twelfth Worcester Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (740) of these admissions reside in the Twelfth Worcester Representative District. 1.4% (11) of admissions from the Twelfth Worcester Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Twelfth Worcester Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 81% were male and 19% were female.
- 66% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 69% were white non-Latino, 7% were black non-Latino, 20% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 63% were never married, 19% were married, and 17% reported not to be married now.
- 48% had less than high school education, 22% completed high school, and 30% had more than high school education.
- 19% were employed.
- 7% were homeless.
- 26% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twelfth Worcester Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	39%	37%	12%	5%	4%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003 Twelfth Worcester Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	490	393	136	139	80	106	80
FY '96	414	336	160	100	73	101	68
FY '97	563	413	168	131	96	124	102
FY '98	578	450	183	135	68	138	87
FY '99	556	423	171	118	59	152	117
FY '00	570	442	209	141	87	222	187
FY '01	731	468	286	178	110	276	211
FY '02	745	513	263	179	110	286	215
FY '03	740	452	232	224	132	290	245